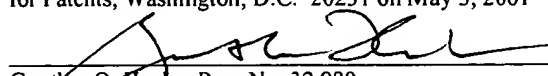


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Gunther O. Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:) Examiner: D. Willse
Inventors: Richard T. Allen, Daniel L. Cox) Group Art Unit: 3738
Serial No.: Continuation of USSN) Docket No. ACS 57527 (12013.1)
08/881,059)
Filed: Concurrently)
For: STENT WITH REINFORCED)
STRUTS AND BIMODAL)
DEPLOYMENT) May 3, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Entry of the following Preliminary Amendment and consideration of the remarks is respectfully requested prior to reconsideration of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

2. The stent of claim 1, wherein each of the alternating peaks or valleys has one of said reinforcing members extending across its width.

Q1
Dutts